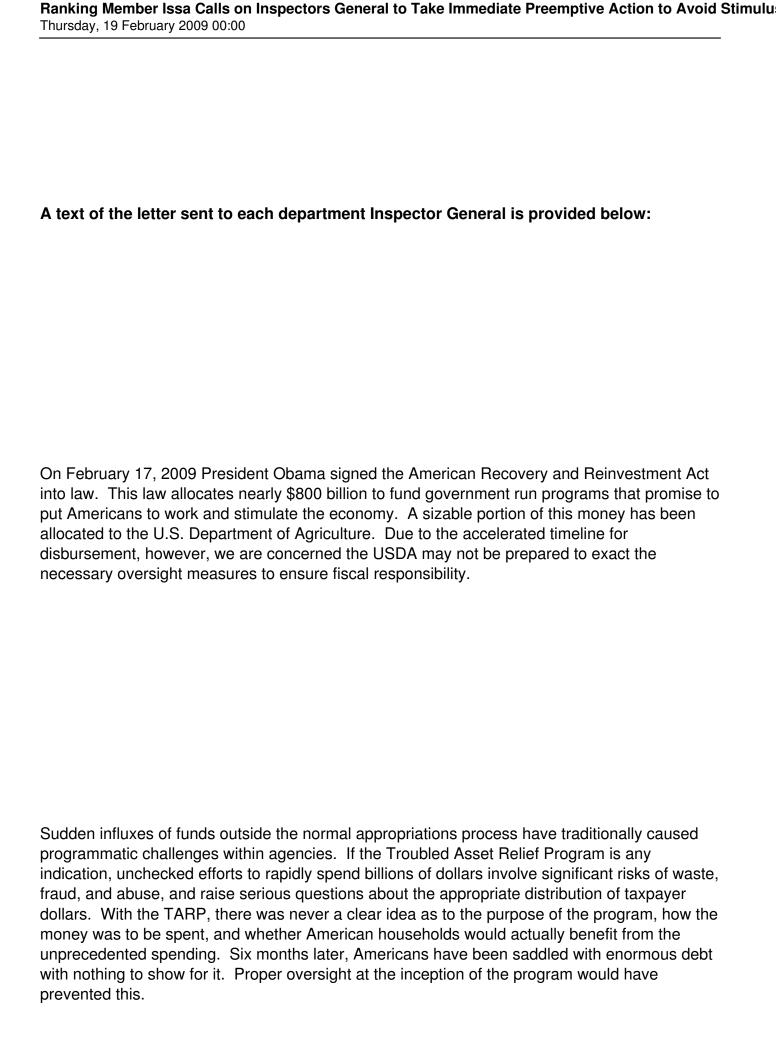
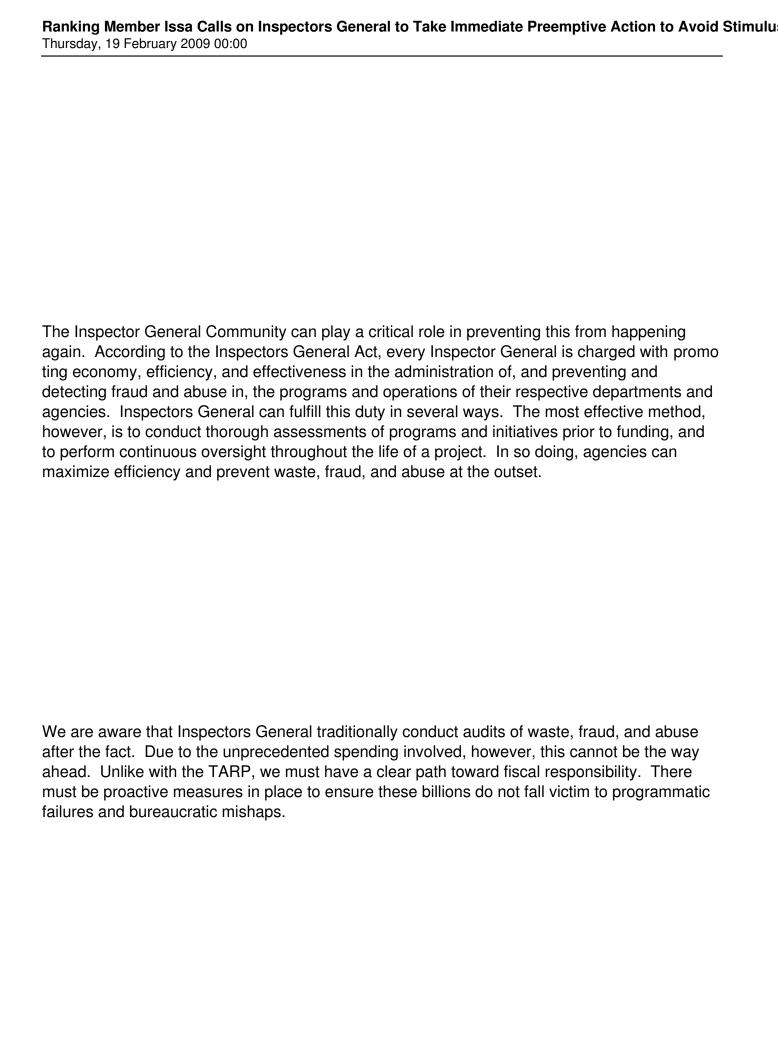


"Sudden influxes of funds outside the normal appropriations process have traditionally caused programmatic challenges within agencies," Issa wrote. "If the Troubled Asset Relief Program is any indication, unchecked efforts to rapidly spend billions of dollars involve significant risks of waste, fraud, and abuse, and raise serious questions about the appropriate distribution of taxpayer dollars."

Issa expressed his concern with the status quo protocol of identifying waste after the fact, rather than being more diligent in preventing it, "We are aware that Inspectors General traditionally conduct audits of waste, fraud, and abuse after the fact," he wrote. "Due to the unprecedented spending involved, however, this cannot be the way ahead. Unlike with the TARP, we must have a clear path toward fiscal responsibility. There must be proactive measures in place to ensure these billions do not fall victim to programmatic failures and bureaucratic mishaps."





Some Inspectors General have already begun implementing proactive measures. We request that you provide us with information regarding your plan to do the same. If you have no plan to take preemptive action, we demand that you devise one and implement this plan before any money is allocated to any Department program. Please submit the requested information and contact the Committee staff to schedule a briefing no later than February 26, 2009.